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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "State Department Branch Chief Eddie William Schodt assigned to University of Montana" (1967). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 2713.

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NEWS

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gidlund/la
6-20-67
(state)

STATE DEPARTMENT BRANCH CHIEF
ASSIGNED TO UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MISSOULA:

The former chief of the Northern European branch of the U. S. Department of State, Dr. Eddie William Schodt, has been assigned to the University of Montana as Diplomat-in-Residence for the 1967-68 school year.

Dr. Schodt, who will report to the Missoula campus in September, is one of eight foreign service officers assigned to academic institutions this year, according to Dr. Leo B. Lott, UM political science department chairman. Dr. Schodt will be attached to the political science department during his stay.

Dr. Schodt entered the Department of State in 1946 and his major assignments abroad include Oslo and Canberra. He currently is assigned to the Tokyo Embassy. Dr. Schodt also has been chief of the State Department's research division for Western Europe and is a Norwegian linguist.

The 53-year-old diplomat is a graduate of Valley State Teacher's College, North Dakota, and holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Colorado. He was a graduate assistant at the Boulder school for four years and served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946. He is a native of North Dakota.

Dr. Lott said that one of the principle purposes of the Diplomat-in-Residence program is to allow the foreign service officer to re-establish ties with the society he represents.

In addition, Dr. Lott said, the State Department hopes that the officer can make a contribution to the campus by meeting with faculty and student groups and participating in seminars. Dr. Schodt also will be available to meet with community groups and visit other campuses.

The program was begun in 1964 and in the past three years, the State Department has assigned 20 foreign service officers to 22 universities and colleges in 17 states. Dr. Schodt is the first to be assigned to a Montana school.